

CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS
OF THE YEAR

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 08, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three Fairfax County Public School Principals for receiving the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's 2009 Environmental Educators of the Year Award.

The honorees for this award were Ms. Debra Lane, principal at Rolling Valley Elementary School, Mr. Sal Rivera, principal at Flint Hill Elementary School, and Mr. Dwayne Young, principal at Centreville Elementary School.

These educators have actively infused environmental education in the curricula of their schools and worked to include more outdoor experiences for their teachers and students. Furthermore, these principals were instrumental in establishing a teacher professional development program called "Chesapeake Classrooms," which focuses on the Chesapeake Bay for county principals and teachers.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Lane, Mr. Rivera, and Mr. Young's hard work have shown their commitment to the community and the importance of educating our young people on the values of environmental stewardship. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this wonderful accomplishment and wish them well in all of their future endeavors.

CELEBRATING ASIAN/PACIFIC
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Asian/Pacific Heritage Month and the contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans to this nation. It is evident that Asian/Pacific Americans are an important source of cultural capital, having become fixtures in literature, film, music, athletics and all other areas of American society. Annual observance each May was designated because of two significant events, the first being the arrival of Japanese immigrants in the United States on May 7, 1843 and the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad on May 10, 1869.

The United States Census Bureau reports that Asian/Pacific Americans are one of the nation's most diverse populations, numbering 15.2 million and encompassing 28 language groups and 47 ethnicities. 80 percent of the Asian/Pacific American community resides in California, Hawaii, New York, Texas, New Jersey, Illinois, Washington, Florida, Virginia, and Massachusetts. The histories of these groups in America are deeply connected to the history of the United States through such events as the designation of the World War II 442nd Regimental Combat team as the highest decorated military unit in U.S. history, the election of Dalip Singh Saund to the U.S. Congress in 1957 and the appointment of three Asian

Americans to the Presidential Cabinet under President Barack Obama.

In addition to the advancements and contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans, we also highlight many of the challenges they have overcome and continue to face today. This legacy includes the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. More recent difficulties comprise post 9/11 profiling, discrimination and hate crimes against Muslim and Sikh communities and income, language and educational discrepancies in access within the Asian/Pacific American population. Acknowledging these hurdles is the first step in overcoming them and learning from past injustices will lead to a more equitable and progressive United States.

The political presence and civic engagement of the Asian/Pacific American community has increased substantially since their arrival in the United States. Currently, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus is composed of a record 30 members. In addition, the Obama administration has made significant efforts to reach out to the Asian/Pacific American community, including the reestablishment of the White House Initiative on Asian and Pacific Islanders to coordinate the work of multiple agencies and ensure more accurate data collection and greater access to services. The United States recognizes the uniqueness of this Asian/Pacific American constituency and the valuable contributions of its members.

I respect and admire the advancements of Asian/Pacific Americans and anticipate their growing political representation and inclusion in all levels of government and American society.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND
MEMORY OF MR. GERALD A.
WILLIAMS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of and express sadness over the untimely death of lawyer and friend Gerald A. Williams.

Mr. Williams was not only a friend but a brilliant lawyer whose mission was to serve our community in South Florida. He was a humble man and a true role model.

He had served as the chief counsel to the Palm Beach County School Board since November 2005 and was responsible for all legal matters involving the School Board. Prior to serving as Chief Counsel, he served for four years as Chief Negotiator and Chief Officer of Administration for the school district.

In numerous appointments and positions, Mr. Williams also served as general counsel for the Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter of the National Bar Association, as treasurer and executive board member for the Urban League of Palm Beach County, and as co-founder and president of the Suncoast Chamber of Commerce in West Palm Beach.

Mr. Williams became one of the first black graduates of the University of Florida College of Law in 1975. His firm, Haygood & Williams, grew into the largest all-black law firm in the state. Mr. Williams left private practice in 1997

to serve as Chief Labor Counsel, and Chief Officer of Labor and Legislative Relations for Dade County Public Schools.

In 2009, Mr. Williams was recognized by Florida Trend Magazine as one of Florida's Legal Elite and identified as one of the top government attorneys in the state.

Mr. Williams was a husband, a father, a brother, an uncle, a godfather, a dedicated public service attorney and community leader. I am grateful for Mr. Williams' contributions and dedication to Palm Beach County. He will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends and to the greater community during this difficult time.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH CARUSO

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph Caruso, a resident of Delanco, New Jersey and dedicated volunteer at Catholic Charities, Emergency and Community Services.

Joe has been volunteering with Emergency and Community Services for the past two years as a trained tax preparer. As one of two tax preparers, Joe has provided free tax preparation for hundreds of seniors and low-income residents of Burlington County.

In addition to his tax services, Joe took on the temporary duties of the Pantry Manager. Through his dedication and commitment to the program's goals, he reorganized the food pantry, handled all food and household donation pick-ups, developed a food inventory tracking system, provided routine maintenance of the pantry's refrigerators and freezers, and advocated with donors to secure additional food items for the pantry program.

Joe does whatever is necessary to make sure that our hungry neighbors do not go without food and quietly goes about his work not expecting or wanting any accolades. He has been a valuable asset to the program and his selfless efforts have to be recognized.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you please join me in congratulating Joe for his outstanding and dedicated service to the less fortunate in our South Jersey communities.

MARYLAND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the women's lacrosse team of my alma mater, the University of Maryland, on its record tenth national championship. In the March 31st championship game, Maryland defeated Northwestern University, a lacrosse dynasty in its own right, by a score of 13-11.

Congratulations are especially due to Coach Cathy Reese, who was rewarded with success after returning to coach at her alma mater; to senior Caitlyn McFadden, who starred in her last collegiate game with two goals and an assist, and was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player; and to the Maryland fans,